

OTEGLOBE DEPLOYS TRANS BALKAN INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT NETWORK WITH INFINERA DTN-X

CUSTOMER NAME

OTEGLOBE

CHALLENGE

Handle growing network traffic volumes from Europe, the Middle East and Africa

Be able to offer customers cost-effective 100 Gb/s services

SOLUTION

An Intelligent Transport Network architecture with unmatched scalability that lets OTEGLOBE quickly activate extra capacity to meet customer requirements. Automation and granular control to move capacity to where it's needed, simplifying planning and optimising bandwidth usage

RESULTS

Network capacity doubled to 1.2 Tb/s, with the ability to expand to 8 Tb/s

Support for 10 Gb/s, 40 Gb/s and 100 Gb/s services at low cost per bit

A cost-efficient, future-proof network that will enable OTEGLOBE to remain competitive and meet customers' growing needs well into the Terabit Era



To handle surging growth in traffic from south-eastern Europe, OTEGLOBE decided to expand both the reach and capacity of its Trans Balkan Network (TBN). Built on the Infinera DTN platform, the TBN network had proved so reliable and flexible that OTEGLOBE chose to upgrade it to the Infinera Intelligent Transport Network™, using Infinera's next-generation DTN-X platform.

A unique carrier in the Balkans

When OTEGLOBE, the wholesale arm of the Greek national carrier OTE, decided to build its own backbone network to connect Greece and the Balkans with central and western Europe, it chose Infinera's DTN platform — which converges WDM transport and digital OTN switching — for scale, speed and flexibility. The resulting fully terrestrial fibre-optic Trans Balkan Network (TBN) stretched from Greece to Germany, connecting the south-eastern European region with major western European backbones.

"Building the TBN put us in a unique position in the broader Balkans region," explains Panagiota Bosdogianni, OTEGLOBE's CTO.

"It complemented our existing subsea route via Italy, enabling us to offer two physically and geographically diverse networks to our carrier and multi-site enterprise customers."

Within just two years OTEGLOBE had tripled capacity on the TBN to 600 Gb/s, to meet increasing customer demand. Today, the majority of Greek broadband and

international voice traffic, along with a significant share of south-east European traffic, is routed via OTEGLOBE's networks.

Boosting scalability and reach

The strategic importance of the TBN to OTEGLOBE's business, combined with ongoing growth in demand for telecommunications in the Middle East and Africa, led to the decision to expand both the reach and capacity of the network further. With this upgrade the company was looking to reinforce its position as a European telecommunications provider, and a reliable gateway for connecting the Middle East and North Africa to Europe, going through Greece and the Balkans as an alternative to routes through Italy and France.

Following an RFP, OTEGLOBE chose to work with Infinera on its upgrade project. Bosdogianni explains why:

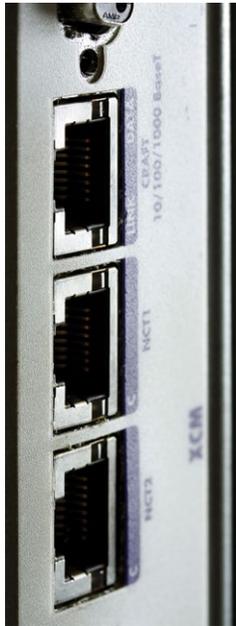
"Our network built on the Infinera DTN platform had proven to be robust and reliable with a low fault ratio, and our experience of working with Infinera had always been very positive. They understood what

was driving our business and we were confident they could deliver what we needed with their new DTN-X platform."

Unprecedented dependability

Infinera's DTN and DTN-X platforms, with integrated OTN switching on every node and built-in GMPLS software, are the building blocks for OTEGLOBE's Intelligent Transport Network. If the TBN detects a fault in the primary path, it undertakes high-speed restoration by automatically creating an alternative route. The whole network is operated remotely from OTEGLOBE's network operations centre in Athens; if an engineer does need to intervene, Infinera has resources along the entire TBN, from Greece to Germany.

"In five years of operations Infinera has never exceeded its four-hour fix SLA," says Bosdogianni. "In our experience this is a high level of reliability and responsiveness."



ABOUT OTEGLOBE

Based in Athens, Greece, OTEGLOBE is a member of the OTE Group of Companies. It delivers a complete portfolio of customised transport, voice, corporate and mobile solutions, over a robust infrastructure, to telecommunication companies, application service providers and multinational organisations. OTEGLOBE is the only carrier in south-eastern Europe that reaches the rest of Europe through Greece with two fully owned, geographically diverse dual-path, multi-wavelength networks.

Time as a weapon: meeting needs in days, not months

The Infinera DTN-X combines 500 Gb/s long-haul super-channels with 5 Tb/s of integrated switching capacity, enabling OTEGLOBE to offer highly scalable services with digital service demarcation and fault-finding along the entire service path. Since the upgrade to DTN-X, OTEGLOBE can now turn up services from Gigabit Ethernet through to 100GbE, with a combination of low cost per bit, rapid response and high reliability that only the Infinera solution could support. This unique combination gives OTEGLOBE valuable differentiation in a highly competitive market.

The intelligent architecture of the Infinera platform, powered by photonic integration, is so easy to scale, it allows OTEGLOBE to accommodate rapid growth in demand without any trouble. "With other providers, activating extra capacity can typically take months. With Infinera it takes days or hours, making it quick and easy for us to support our carrier customers as internet and other traffic increases," says Bosdogianni.

Unparalleled flexibility in managing traffic

Sometimes the challenge for a wholesale carrier like OTEGLOBE isn't adding capacity but making optimum use of the capacity you have when it's difficult to predict exactly where capacity will be required. With the Infinera solution this simply isn't an issue. Unlike an analogue, all-optical solution that would need power equalisation in the optical amplifiers when changes are made, the intelligent architecture of the Infinera platform, powered by the integrated digital switching technology, gives OTEGLOBE flexibility in setting the traffic matrix.

"We have automation and granular control to move capacity to where we need it," says Bosdogianni. "It's one of the features we liked about DTN and was one of the reasons we chose to continue working with Infinera."

Effectively, the network bandwidth becomes an intelligent pool of capacity that can be made available to any service in any location. "This makes planning much simpler, enables us to make more efficient use of bandwidth, and accelerates service provisioning," says Bosdogianni.

A platform for the Terabit Era

Now more than 8,000 km long, the TBN network stretches from Greece to Western Europe, enabling OTEGLOBE to easily meet the telecommunication needs of Europe and the constantly increasing demand in the regions of Middle East and Africa.

Implementing DTN-X has already doubled capacity on the backbone to more than 1 Tb/s, with the scope to increase it to 8 Tb/s and beyond.

The Infinera DTN-X platform has been designed to support 1 Tb/s super-channels, and is even ready for 1 Tb/s Ethernet. So it will be able to meet OTEGLOBE's growth plans well into the Terabit Era over the coming eight to ten years without the need for forklift upgrades.

"By investing in the best-in-class Infinera DTN-X platform we've future-proofed our network technologically and gained an efficient solution that helps us maintain a good cost base. We're confident we'll be able to remain competitive and continue meeting our customers' demands, however fast traffic volumes grow," concludes Bosdogianni.

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